

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01

/098 W

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R 100850Z SEP H75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO NJUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8064

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, BG, AS

SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN FY '76 ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH

1. DACCA NEWSPAPERS, SEPTEMBER 9, CARRY FOLLOWING STORY: QUOTE
TK 21 CR AUSTRALIAN PROJECT, FOOD AID. AUSTRALIA WILL PROVIDE
BANGLADESH PROJECT AND FOOD AID WORTH TAKA 21 CRORE DURING THE
CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR, ENA LEARNED IN DACCA ON MONDAY. THIS
INCLUDES AN IMMEDIATE AID OF 70,000 TONS OF FOOD GRAINS. AN
ANNOUNCEMENT TO THIS EFFECT IS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN CANBERRA
IN A COUPLE OF DAYS. THE REST OF THE AMOUNT WILL BE UTILIZED
FOR SETTING UP BAKERY IN DACCA, DAIRY AND CATTLE DEVELOPMENT
FARM IN PABNA AND CONSTRUCTION OF 10 GRAIN STORAGES AT DIFFERENT
PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. AUSTRALIA WILL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSIST-
ANCE AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE PROJECTS. DIPLOMATIC SOURCES
IN DACCA OBSERVE THAT THE ALREADY EXISTING CORDIAL RELATIONS
BETWEEN BANGLADESH AND AUSTRALIA WILL CONTINUE TO GROW FROM
STRENGTH TO STRENGTH IN FUTURE THROUGH MUTUAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE SOURCES HOPE THAT AUSTRALIA
WILL CONTINUE ITS FLOW OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH AND
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MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO FURTHER CEMENTING THE BOND OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE.

2. AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION OFFICER CONFIRMS ACCURACY OF THE STORY WHICH WAS DELIBERATELY LEAKED TWO NEWS AGENCY. HIGH COMMISSION IS NOW IN PROCESS OF OBTAINING BDG FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF THIS OFFER. FOOD GRANT IS 9 PERCENT LESS THAN LAST YEARS 77,000 MT GRANT IN YEAR WHEN TOTAL AUSTRALIAN FOOD AID CUT, HIGH COMMISSION OFFICER TELLS US, BY 28 PERCENT. BANGLADESH IS, IN FACT, RECEIVING ABOUT ONE QUARTER OF TOTAL FY 76 AUSTRALIAN FOOD GRANT ASSISTANCE. REMAINDER OF AID PROGRAM IS AT ROUGHLY SAME LEVEL AS LAST YEAR.
BOSTER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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